

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for filtering molten metal before entering a dosing tube, the apparatus comprising a mounting portion; a filter body connected to the mounting portion, the filter body having a beveled end opposite the mounting portion; and a surface attached to and substantially covering the beveled end.
2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the mounting portion is dimensioned to fit around the dosing tube.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the filter body is substantially cylindrical.
4. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for filtering molten metal held in a vessel before the metal enters a dosing tube, the apparatus comprising:
an attachment portion dimensioned to attach to a dosing tube; and
a closed filtering surface area attached to and extending from the attachment portion to provide a filtering surface, the closed filtering surface area comprises a cylindrical portion having a beveled end distal the attachment portion and a planar surface attached to the beveled end.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the attachment portion is annular.
- 6-10. (Cancelled).
11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the surface attached to and substantially covering the beveled end is substantially planar.

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the filter body comprises:

silicon carbide or aluminum oxide; and
an aluminum-alloy resistant binder.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for filtering molten metal, the apparatus comprising:

a vessel for holding molten metal;
a dosing tube disposed in the vessel; and
a filter attached to the dosing tube, wherein the filter includes a beveled end.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the filter is mounted onto an inlet end of the dosing tube.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the filter is cemented to the dosing tube.

16. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the filter rests on a bottom floor of the vessel.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the ~~filter includes a~~ beveled end ~~that rests on the bottom floor of the vessel.~~

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the dosing tube is disposed at an angle to vertical.